

BENCHMARKS

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MARCH 1981

*BENCHMARKS was produced using MUSIC/SCRIPT

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PLANNING FOR ACADEMIC COMPUTING

Thomas Wm. Madron, Manager
Academic Computing Services

Since the first of February (when I started as Manager of Academic Computing) I have had an opportunity to meet many of you--I have yet to meet others. Within the period of time I have been on board, however, I have felt a considerable need to gather information which will assist us all in providing the kind of academic computer services needed at NTSU. In order to provide quality computing services for instruction and research, it will be necessary for all of us to work closely with one another.

One way I hope to communicate with you is through more frequent

editions of BENCHMARKS. It will be important for you to maintain a file of these newsletters, for they will contain materials which will periodically update existing documents as well as information and suggestions on uses of OS-MVT, MUSIC, the HP-2000, and other resources available to NTSU students and faculty. If you have suggestions concerning computing which you believe would be of general use to the academic community, we would be happy to publish those remarks, as well.

Between editions of BENCHMARKS, MUSIC users should check MUSIC NEWS periodically (i.e. enter /NEWS on your terminal after you log on to MUSIC). We have been adding material to the NEWS file on an almost daily basis. Contained in this file is such short term information as scheduled down-times as well as information which is of a more general nature. HP users should check the log-on messages, as they will contain the same information as the MUSIC NEWS file - when it is pertinent to both systems. MUSIC NEWS and the HP Log-On Messages are our only way of communicating with a large number of users on a short term time schedule.

You will notice in this issue that there are several short articles concerning resources available on the campus related to academic computing, although not necessarily available through the Computing Center. We will endeavor to uncover such resources and advise you of them. If you have programs, machine-readable data, or general information you wish to share with others, please let us know.

The back page of this issue is devoted to a short, open-ended questionnaire which solicits your input. We will appreciate it if you will take the time to read the questionnaire over, fill it out, then send it back to us. Your response will enhance our ability to plan for academic computing. In future issues we will attempt to use the information so gathered in order to provide timely feedback to you as well as to serve as the basis for future planning.

I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to drop by my office and get acquainted. I am trying to meet with groups across the University as quickly as possible. If you would like to meet with me at any time, please do not hesitate to call.

DISK DATA SET NAMING CONVENTIONS

This is a reminder that there are disk data set naming conventions established for use at NTSU. During the current academic year we have managed to let the enforcement of those conventions slip a little. The result of that lapse is a lot of clutter on the disk packs. Consequently, in the not too distant future we will have to start scratching data sets which do not conform to the conventions. Therefore, until further notice, the naming conventions should be adhered to. Although the current conventions are undergoing study, with the possibility of future revisions, we remind you that until that time the naming convention is of the form: USERn.Dxxxx.Pyyyy.name Where capital letters and periods must appear as shown.

n=1 for research users.

n=2 for instructional users.

xxxx=the first four digits of your project number.

yyyy=the last four digits of your project number.

name=one or more optional fields (each of which may not exceed eight characters), separated by periods. THE TOTAL LENGTH OF THE DATA SET NAME MAY NOT EXCEED 44 CHARACTERS, INCLUDING THE FIRST THREE MANDATORY FIELDS AND ANY PERIODS.

DELETING DISK FILES

Disk files that are no longer of any use to their creator should be deleted from the disk packs so that these resources can be used more efficiently. A quick and easy way to accomplish this is to use the utility IEFBR14. For example:

```
// EXEC PGM=IEFBR14
//DD1 DD DSN=USERn.Dxxxx.Pyyyy.name,VOL=SER=ACADnn,
// UNIT=SYSDA,DISP=(OLD,DELETE)
```

```
* * * * *
*           M U S I C           *
* * * * *
```

ROUTING JOBS FROM OSJR

Last month BENCHMARKS contained a brief introduction to the MUSIC OSJE/OSJR facility. Since that time there has been a change in the "destinations" that jobs can be sent to. The following information is also contained in the OSJR HELP file, which should always be accessed if there is any question concerning routing procedures (simply enter the keyword HELP when you are in OSJR).

To send output to a high speed printer or punch, one should issue the following command while in OSJR:

```
ROUTE jobname,TO='destination'
```

Possible destinations are:

TO='LOCAL'	Computing Center Dispatch. This is the default if the keyword "TO" is omitted.
TO='BA'	Business Administration Remote Job Entry Station.
TO='SPECIAL'	Computing Center main printer, mainly used for special forms and print train.

NOTE: ALL punched output must be routed to 'LOCAL' or 'SPECIAL' since the BA RJE does not have a card punch.

HIGH SPEED PRINT/PUNCH IN MUSIC

Often it is desirable to obtain a hard copy listing of a MUSIC Save Library file. Program PTPCH is now available to facilitate this, as well as to provide punched output. Full documentation may be obtained by entering: PTPCH HELP

You should particularly note the LRECL (logical record length)

parameter. This program will process any record length, but the value must be specified if it is other than 80. Most MUSIC files are either 80 or 133. For record lengths of 133, this program assumes the file is in printed listing format and treats the first character of each record as a carriage control character. Listings for any other record length are single spaced. In addition, only fixed length records (FC or F) may be processed.

Printed output may be routed to the Computing Center (LOCAL) printer in the Information Sciences building or to the College of Business Remote Job Entry Station (BA) (these printers do not support special forms--see "Routing Jobs form OSJR" in this issue). Punched output can be produced only in the Computing Center. In order to punch cards the "PUNCH=" parameter should be changed to "T" (for True). The default PUNCH= is "F" (for False). Output will be filed in the output boxes alphabetically by the NAME parameter. If it is necessary to inquire about your listing, you will need to know what you specified in the JOB parameter. Alternatively, you may use OSJR to check on the results; when the job is 'NOT FOUND', the print or punch output is ready to be picked up.

MUSIC/SCRIPT

The MUSIC/SCRIPT Manual will be available in the University Store some time this month. MUSIC/SCRIPT is a set of text processing application programs that run on MUSIC. BENCHMARKS itself was produced via the MUSIC/SCRIPT subsystem. In addition to the MUSIC/SCRIPT Manual, a MUSIC SCRIPT reference card is available upon request at the Computing Center Dispatch desk, located in the student/faculty programming/keypunch area (ISB) and the Dispatch desk located in the Business Administration Computing Access Facility.

MUSIC NOTES

1. attempting to key before the system prompts you (normally with a "?") will frequently put you in BREAK mode. Your next entry may produce the message:
 * ENTER BREAK-TIME COMMAND (OR BLANK LINE TO CONTINUE)
 Simply hit the return key in order to resume where you left off. For further information concerning BREAK Mode, consult the MUSIC AT NTSU Manual page 67.
2. Tabs will not work properly unless terminal type has been specified. As stated in the MUSIC AT NTSU Manual (p.324), the BACKSP, ITABS, OTABS, and TAB options are all defined for a single specific terminal type. MUSIC checks the terminal type to make sure that the settings are valid for the terminal type in use. Tabs are set by executing the PROFILE program, however the user must log off before they become valid. For more information on PROFILE, execute PROFILE and enter the keyword HELP, and/or consult the MUSIC AT NTSU Manual page 322.
3. Entering the keyword NAME while in EDIT mode will remind you of the name of the file you are editing.
4. As stated in the MUSIC NEWS message dated 02-20-81, ALL MVT JOBS SUBMITTED THROUGH OSJE AND NOT ROUTED TO SOME OUTPUT DEVICE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THEIR EXECUTION WILL BE CANCELLED -- NO EXCEPTIONS !!!

5. Make sure and check the date of the latest NEWS message at the time you log-on. This is located in the statement:
 ENTER /NEWS FOR THE LATEST SYSTEM INFORMATION (REF date)
 Very important messages will be labelled HOT!!!

ACCESSING THE INTERACTIVE COMPUTING SYSTEMS

The HP-2000 and MUSIC may be accessed through terminals at the following locations. All terminals are dial-ups unless otherwise noted, and as such can be used to access either the HP-2000 or the AS/5000 computers.

BA 153: 5 CRT's, 6 DEC LA36's, 16 CRT's HARDWIRED to the AS/5000
 ISB 153: 3 CRT's HARDWIRED to the HP-2000
 ISB 229: 1 Diablo D1620
 WH 173: 3 CRT's, 1 DEC LA36 (8am-5pm)
 WH 131: 1 CRT, 1 DEC LA36 (8am-5pm)
 GAB: Media Library - 12 CRT's HARDWIRED to the AS/5000
 GAB 333: 1 DEC LA36, 3 DEC LA36 HARDWIRED to the AS/5000
 MU 1007: 9 CRT's, 1 DEC LA36 (by appointment)

Additionally, there are plans to install 1 DEC LA36 and 3 CRT's in Music Room 2006 sometime this semester.

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* H P - 2000 *

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THE BIG PURGE

Individual users should note that the HP system will be purged at the beginning of June of all programs and files not accessed since January 1, 1981. In order to keep programs and files from being purged, all individual users should access them in some way (i.e., get & list, run or execute them).

FACULTY USE OF BASIC TUTORIAL

It has been suggested by Dr. Fred Davis of the ACIS Faculty that those faculty members using the BASIC Tutorial on the HP for their classes coordinate the scheduling of the assignment of the tutorial so that the system and equipment (terminals, decwriters, response time, etc.) would not be overloaded. This would aid everybody by assuring that assignments would be completed on schedule.

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* OPERATIONS *

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SPRING BREAK SCHEDULE

The Computing Center will maintain normal hours March 14 and 15 (close Saturday midnight, open noon to midnight Sunday), however Monday, March 16 through Thursday, March 18 will be reserved for electrical modification of the Information Science Building. This means that the Computing Center will be closed at least those three days. If rain delays the electrical modification in any way, the down-time will be pushed back, so that there is a possibility of the Computing Center being closed beyond Wednesday, March 18. If, however, things go as planned, the Computing Center will resume normal operating hours Thursday, March 19, starting at 8 A.M. .

SECURE JOB PICKUP

A revision in the pickup policy concerning secure jobs, effective March 2, 1981, limits access to secure printouts. If you desire someone other than yourself to pick up a secured job, you must send a signed memo stating the names of your representatives and any date restrictions upon them. This memo should be addressed to Gary Walker, Dispatch Job Coordinator.

SOFTWARE OF THE FUTURE

IIS

The MUSIC Interactive Instructional System (IIS) is on order and should be available some time this semester. This will facilitate the use of MUSIC by providing several computer-assisted instruction (CAI) courses designed to familiarize the user with the basic concepts of the MUSIC system, including MUSIC/SCRIPT. In addition to these courses, IIS provides facilities for user written CAI.

ETS

The Statistical Analysis System (SAS) Econometrics and Time Series Library (ETS) should also be available some time this semester. ETS is a software system for forecasting, modeling and reporting that is integrated into the basic SAS package. Some of the available procedures are:

- Automated univariate forecasts
- Univariate Box-Jenkins ARIMA forecasts
- Multivariate state-space analysis and forecasts

Spectral analysis
 X11 seasonal adjustment
 Regression with autoregressive errors
 Estimation and simulation for econometric and financial models
 Spread sheet financial reports
 Picture formats
 Financial functions

In addition to those procedures, CITIBASE, a procedure to load data from a CITIBASE tape into a SAS data set will be available. CITIBASE is a economic data base available from Citibank Economics Department. For more information about CITIBASE, write or call:

Jonathan Sheer
 Citibank, N. A.
 399 Park Avenue
 New York, New York 10043
 212/599-8052

TAKE-HOME TERMINALS NOW AVAILABLE FOR FACULTY USE

The Computing Center has two TI-745 Silent 700 terminals for use on a 24 hour basis for interested faculty members. Obviously, because there are only two of these terminals currently available, it is necessary to employ the 24 hour time limit, however, special arrangements may be made for longer use. To check out the terminals, faculty should call 788-2324 or come to the reception area of the Computing Center in the Information Science Building.

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* USER INPUT *

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ICPSR - A UNIVERSITY WIDE RESOURCE

As many of you are already aware, North Texas is a Class I member of the Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research (ICPSR). This entitles us to full membership privileges. Housed at the University of Michigan, the ICPSR encompasses a large data archive for social scientists of all stripes, computer packages like OSIRIS, and a Summer Training Program in advanced social science research methods and selected substantive topics. Our membership entitles NT faculty and students to use data sets gathered and cleaned by the ICPSR staff. These sets include historical, social and political studies and a new and growing set of studies in aging. NT academic community members are also eligible to attend the Summer Program at the University of Michigan. Faculty members may have tuition and fees waived and a small travel grant is available from the ICPSR. OSIRIS is a social science oriented package of programs with some unique capacities, especially for ordinal and nominal data analysis and is easily accessible to NT users.

While users can order any set of data held by the Archive (and listed in the Guide to Resources and Services published by ICPSR), we already have a substantial library here on campus. It is held in WH 130, complete with codebooks and tape information. A listing of our data holdings and information on the summer program and other services of ICPSR is available from John Books, WH 140, 788-2321.

GALILEO IV

GALILEO IV is now available to NTSU users. GALILEO IV is an integrated programming package for metric multidimensional scaling of paired dissimilarity or distance judgement data. It allows users to input data in the form of raw dissimilarity scores, aggregate means in the form of a square symmetric matrix, or a centroid scalar products matrix. GALILEO IV accepts up to 50 data sets, for each of which such statistics as normal eigencoordinates, dimensions in real and "imaginary" space, and scalar products may be obtained, as well as comparisons of multidimensional spaces among data sets. Thus, the program is useful for both static and longitudinal analyses. For further information regarding GALILEO IV, contact Dr. David Brandt, Department of Speech Communication, 788-2588.

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In order to utilize BENCHMARKS to its fullest capacity and avoid redundancies, an index of previous issues containing information considered still pertinent to the NT Computing Center is included in each issue.

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* BENCHMARKS is a publication of the NTSU Computing Center.
* Reader/user feedback is encouraged, so send all letters,
* suggestions, etc., to: NTSU Computing Center
*                        NT Box 13495
*                        Denton, Tx 76203
*
* Claudia Putnam . . . . . BENCHMARKS Editor
*
* Richard Harris . . . . . Director of
*                        Computer Systems
*
* Thomas Madron . . . . . Manager, Academic
*                        Computing Services
* * * * *

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BENCHMARKS is the Computing Center newsletter aimed at the NTSU academic community. A benchmark is a point of reference from which measurements of any sort are made, and that name was chosen to symbolize the intent of this publication - to provide a point of reference for the users of the North Texas State University computing facilities. BENCHMARKS was created to provide a channel of communications between the NTSU Computing Center and its users - a channel, hopefully, that will flow both ways, enabling both the users and the Computing Center staff to gain new insights into the ever changing world of academic computing.

USER RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please respond to this questionnaire using short, declarative sentences. For each category listed there are spaces provided for as many as three responses. If you require more space, please use a separate sheet of paper. Please label any additional responses with the letter designating the appropriate item.

A. Thinking of your short-term computing needs, what services should Academic Computing Services be offering which are not now provided?

B. Thinking now of your long-term computing needs (next three to five years), what services should Academic Computing Services be offering which are not now provided?

C. What information concerning computing at NTSU/TCOM could Academic Computing Services provide in addition to what is already being disseminated?

D. Is there any computing equipment not now available to you that you believe we should plan for in the next one to five years?

E. Is there any computing software (programs) not now available to you that you believe we should plan to acquire in the next one to five years

F. Are there any additional suggestions you have which we might implement to make Academic Computing Services more responsive to the needs of the university?

G. Are you . . .

- 1 ☐ An undergraduate student;
- 2 ☐ A graduate student;
- 3 ☐ A member of the faculty or staff;
- 4 ☐ Or do you have some other relationship to NTSU/TCOM?

H. Are you located at . . .

- 1 ☐ The NTSU campus in Denton; or
- 2 ☐ The TCOM campus in Ft. Worth?

If you are located at the NTSU campus, please note your college and/or department:

Please return this questionnaire to:
Academic Computing Services
The Computing Center
NT Box 13495
North Texas State University
Denton, TX 76203